

The Groundplane



DINNER LOCATION — VETERANS HALL HOT DOG AND CONDIMENTS —WE'LL SEE YOU AT 6:00PM

MAY MEETING PROGRAM

I'd like to invite you to listen to Eric Swartz WA6HHQ speak at the May 12th SBARA meeting. Eric is the co-founder of Elecraft Radio <http://www.elecraft.com/> and will be talking about Elecraft current and future products.

Again this year Elecraft has generously provided, at a significant discount, a K2 HF Transceiver for SBARA's Field Day raffle fundraiser. Part of your attending is to show appreciation to Eric for Elecraft's financial support to SBARA.

Also, we a hot dog Veterans ing time is



will be having dinner at the Building start- 6:00PM. In

addition to the hot dogs there will be two side dishes and of course cold soft drinks/water. Price is \$5 for adults, \$2 for children under 12 years old.

Now that the WX is warmer come and visit with you're friends and listen to an interesting talk by Eric Swartz at the SBARA May 12th meeting.

73,
AI, WT6K
Program Facilitator

A MATEUR RADIO UPDATE.....

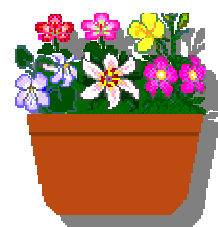
The oldest digital mode we have is Morse Code. Even with the code requirements from the FCC going down we still see a lot of Amateurs who want to learn the code. Today we have interactive computer programs to learn code with along with stand alone code trainers. The old way was to have a Code Practice Oscillator and a key just practice sending. Of course you had a tone or buzzer to listen to what you sent and get used to the pattern of the letters. Code practice oscillators are still alive and well. You can buy used units sold over the years used on EBAY and at hamfests. AMECO still makes new kits and assembled units if you want these.

You can also homebrew up a circuit for a code practice oscillator. Most of these use the LM-555 timer chip, which cost under 1 dollar. Add a few capacitors, resistors, speaker, battery, and a key and you are ready to go. Just get on the internet and type code practice oscillator to get a copy of the circuit diagram to build you own unit.

SBARA "T" shirts are still available. To place an order, go the SBARA web page and from the menu select SBARA Store. Open the pdf order form and send it in with your check.

May, 2006
Volume 7 Issue 5

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Happy May !!

Articles of Interest

- Ted Cameron N6BFO Silent Key
- Decoration Day

Field Day 2006 — By the SBARA Board Members, et al

Mark your calendar for June 23rd, 24th & 25th. SBARA Field Day 2006 will be at Lake Elizabeth in Frmont's Central Park. As usual, the KU6S gang will be located adjacent to the parking lot off Paseo Padre Blvd at Sailway Drive.

Thanks to Mike Studer's donation of his time, SBARA's 2006 Field Day will have the added feature of someone winning a new assemble and tested [Elecraft K2](#) HF Transceiver, SSB module included. The raffle will be held at the Saturday Barbeque and the number sold will be limited to 300. and anyone who comes to Field Day can ceiver Raffle prior to the drawing.

The barbeque will be at 5:00PM on Satur-Hamburgers and all the drinks. To offset day June 24th. SBARA provides the Hot Dogs, this expense we are asking everyone to donate \$3 per family member over 12 years of age with children under 12 being free. Remember for the potluck part or the meal, if your last name begins with the letter A to M you are to bring a salad. If your last name begins with N to Z you are to bring a desert.



Field Day — 2005



Field Day — 2005

Ted Cameron N6BFO Silent Key

Ted passed away in early March. He has been a big supporter of SBARA and we all miss him terribly. He used to be a big supporter of our Field Day efforts. He operated out of his pickup at Field Day many years. I remember he set up a long wire with a SGC tuner to try 160m at least once that I can remember. Didn't have many contacts on 160 that year.

I always liked Ted's callsign. It is not a vanity call either! BFO = Beat Frequency Oscillator. Older rigs had BFOs in them to allow you to copy CW and SSB. You had to manually tune the BFO until you could comfortably copy the signal. This was in addition to tuning the VFO to put you on the right frequency. Ted had donated a nice Linear amplifier to the club already. And now his widow has donated the remainder of his ham gear to SBARA.

We talked about this at our April SBARA meeting but I know some of you did not make the meeting so I wanted to post a summary here for you.

73,
Mike K6EEP



73'es Ted.....

SBARA Treasurer Note, May 2006 — Bernhard, DL4MHK

Dear fellow SBARA members,

The job as treasurer bears some surprises sometimes, for example the discovery of a savings account the SBARA had started some two years ago. The money in it – quite an amount – could be used e.g. for one of our future projects like the planned remote ham radio station in the Veteran's Memorial building. The money we can spend will help to attract new people interested in this great hobby, which may also mean new members. For the moment this money has been reinvested at a really good interest rate, we could also add a small amount to increase the savings a little.



old important things. Maybe you have some old documents you want to add?

There are some bad news as well. A surprisingly high number of the SBARA members have not yet paid their membership dues for this year. This means that the club currently has about \$400 (!) less than expected. Each reminder mailing costs about the equivalent of a families membership dues. We have already sent out two such mailings. If you still owe the SBARA the membership fee, please kindly send it to us (SBARA Treasurer, P.O. Box 8377, Fremont, CA 94537-8377). The budget we have set up for 2006 counts on it!

Another interesting thing was when I started to sort all the old documents we have. I have inherited treasure documents and more, coming in a large card board box; the documents were pretty much unsorted. Now, after sorting, I found that we have documents reaching back to 1977. There is contiguous data beginning with the year 1984. Some years were exceptionally active, and I found correspondence and meeting minutes describing in detail what happened. Some other years documents just contain a few receipts. I found also a dime, which will be brought back into the cash flow of SBARA :-). The documents will remain with the SBARA Treasurer, it will now be easier to find

Overall, we are still in a good shape. Let's work together to keep it this way!

Bernhard, DL4MHK

Treasurer of the SBARA

This year's Field Day raffle will be for an Elecraft K2 HF Transceiver. This is a great rig to have and remember if the FCC removes the CW requirement for HF all No Code Techs will be receiving HF privileges.

Please mark your calendars for June 24th, 25th & 26th. Oh yes, do not forget to wear your new SBARA T-shirt to Field Day!



Happenings Around — By Steve Wilson, KA6S

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Description</i>
May 5	8:00 AM-9:00 PM	Amateur Radio Technology Day – Foothill Amateur Radio Society, SLAC
May 6	5:00 PM	Transmitter Hunt
May 7	7:00 AM	Livermore Swap meet
May 8	7:00 PM	Sunnyvale VEC Exam - Fremont
May 12	7:30 PM	SBARA General Meeting
May 13	5:00 AM	Foothill Flea Market
May 19-21	Multi-Day Event	Dayton Hamvention
May 21	6:00 PM	Transmitter Hunt (Foxes choice)
June 2		SBARA Board Meeting
June 3	8:00 AM-9:00 PM	Amateur Radio Technology Day – Foothill Amateur Radio Society, SLAC
June 3	5:00 pm	Transmitter Hunt
June 4	7:00 AM	Livermore Swap meet
June 9	7:30 PM	SBARA General Meeting
June 10	5:00 AM	Foothill Flea Market
June 12	7:00 PM	Sunnyvale VEC Exam – Fremont
June 17	6:00 PM	Transmitter Hunt (Foxes choice)
June 24-26	Multi-Day Event Lake Elizabeth	Field Day – BE THERE!!! Thousands of Hams K2 Grand Prize and BBQ
June 3	8:00 AM-9:00 PM	Amateur Radio Technology Day – Foothill Amateur Radio Society, SLAC
July 4		Fremont 4 th of July Parade – Contact Jim, KE6IVA
August 19-20	Multi-Day Event	Zucchini Festival – Contact Al, WT6K

May Meeting Raffle — By Gene Arrillaga, KF6ZYD

The May SBARA meeting promises to be a good one, Eric Swartz, WA6HHQ of Elecraft is coming to give the presentation and we are offering a Yaesu, FT-2800M FM transceiver in the raffle. You don't want to miss the May meeting.

Features of the FT 2800m include: Four selectable power output levels 65/25/10/5 Watts. Yaesu's renowned Advanced Track Tuning RF input filtering, which affords outstanding protection from Inter-modulation



repeater access, or silent busy channels, and DCS (Digital Encoder/Decoder built in. A total of 221 memory channels, including 200 "regular" memories, ten pairs of band-limit memories, and an instant-recall "Home" channel.

Alpha-numeric channel display,

WIRES Internet linking access feature, WX Channels with "Severe Weather" Alert, Direct Access Microphone allowing direct keypad frequency entry, or keypad memory channel recall. Microphone keys replicate the functions of the keys on the front panel of the transceiver, for maximum convenience while driving.

Additional prizes will include a year's subscription or renewal to "Worldradio" a magazine devoted to Hams and amateur radio enthusiasts.



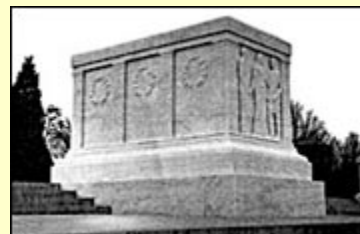
All of this for a minimum buy-in of \$10, for 5 tickets, additional tickets are available at \$2 each.

Memorial Day — Remember our Fallen Heroes

[Memorial Day](#) originated in 1868, when Union General [John A. Logan](#) designated a day in which the graves of [Civil War](#) soldiers would be decorated.

Known as Decoration Day, the holiday was changed to Memorial Day within twenty years, becoming a holiday dedicated to the memory of all war dead. It became a federal holiday in 1971, and is now observed on the last Monday in May.

There is also a [Confederate Memorial Day](#), which is celebrated on various days in spring in some of the southern



Memorial Day — Remember our Fallen Heroes

MEMORIAL DAY

MAY 29th



SBARA MEMBERSHIP

Little known Facts...

There ARE many benefits to being a member of SBARA.

Here are some advantages:

- Discount on accessories at HRO when SBARA membership card is presented at time of purchase.
- E-mail notification of Groundplane newsletter posting on SBARA web page and monthly meeting
- reminder is included in the membership.
- No attendance fees to Saturday workshops if you are a member. You just pay for the parts if you participate.

Your membership dues support many SBARA functions. If you enjoy:

- Field Day
- Pre-meeting dinners Barbeques
- Zucchini Festival Communications Support
- SBARA December Holiday Dinner.
- Monthly meetings with presentation.
- Saturday Workshops

Remember that these activities are made possible through your membership support.

Membership Categories:

Regular:	\$20.00 / yr.
Family:	\$25.00 / yr.
Senior:	\$10.00 / yr.
Senior - (65 Years or older)	

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JOANN W6RQT & JIM KE6IVA IN PERU



PERU'S MACHU PICCHU

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(Near Disneyland)
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Handy Web Links

SBARA Web Site	http://www.sbara.org
ARRL Main Site	http://www.arrl.org/
ARRL SCV Division	http://www.arrl.org/sections/SCV.html
ARRL East Bay Section	http://www.pdarrrl.org/ebsec/index.html
ARRL Contest Page	http://www.arrl.org/contests
Contest Calendar	http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal
Callsign Lookup (QRZ)	http://www.qrz.com/
Vanity Callsign Info	http://www.vanityhq.com/
IRLP Main Page	http://www.irlp.net/
AMSAT	http://www.amsat.org/
FCC Services	http://wireless.fcc.gov/services/amateur

SBARA on the Internet

<http://www.sbara.org>

On the Air at 147.015 + PL 103.5

Fremont Repeaters & Net Information

WA6PWW - 147.015 +600Khz, PL 103.5
 WA6PWW - 223.900 -500Khz, PL 107.2
 WA6PWW - 442.600 +5Mhz, PL 107.2
 N6OXR - 146.940 -600Khz, PL 123.0
 N6OXR - 441.525 +5Mhz, PL 123.0

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The Ground Plane



ANNOUNCEMENTS

SBARA monthly meeting:

May 12th.

Hot Dog Dinner @ 6PM

Veterans Hall in Niles



It's May — Happy Mothers Day !!!

The Ground Plane—KU6S

<http://www.sbara.org>

South Bay Amateur Radio Association — SBARA

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